# IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA

CAILEY JONES, Case No. 2:20-CV-607

Plaintiff, CIVIL COMPLAINT

vs. J.

EAT'N PARK HOSPITALITY GROUP,

Defendant.

# **COMPLAINT IN CIVIL ACTION**

AND NOW comes the Plaintiff, Cailey Jones, by and through her trial attorney, Erik M. Yurkovich, Esq., who files this Civil Complaint pursuant based upon the following.

### I. PARTIES

- The Plaintiff is Cailey Jones ("Jones") former employee of Defendant who resides at 107 East Littlewood Street, Pgh. PA 15223.
- The Defendant is Eat'n Park Hospitality Group ("Eat'n Park"), former employer of Plaintiff, that has a principle place of business of 285 E. Waterfront Dr. Homestead, Pennsylvania 15120.

#### II. JURISDICTION

3. Plaintiff exhausted administrative remedies through the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission ("EEOC") and filed this Complaint timely.

Plaintiff brings a case of pregnancy discrimination pursuant to Title 42 U.S.C. §
 2000, et seq., Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and pregnancy related
 Retaliation.

#### III. FACTS

- 5. Jones is an adult female over the age eighteen (18).
- In February of 2019, Jones applied for employment with Eat'n Park at 849 Freeport Rd.,
  Pgh., PA 15238 located in Waterworks Mall.
- 7. Jones applied for a take-out server position.
- 8. Jones interviewed with general manager, Larry.
- 9. Jones began working for Eat'n Park at the end of March of 2019.
- 10. Jones worked full-time, 5 days a week, either a 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. shift or 4 p.m. to 10 p.m. shift.
- 11. Jones primarily worked inside at a take-out window.
- 12. Jones performed food preparation and delivered take-out orders through the window or the front counter.
- 13. A week after working for Eat'n Park, Jones learned she was pregnant and notified her managers, including Larry, Dave and Andrew.
- 14. Larry said there was no problem.
- 15. In April of 2019, Jones began to experience swelling and fatigue at work.
- 16. Jones asked Andrew and Larry if she could use a chair, but Andrew and Larry denied her request without providing a reason.
- 17. Jones also requested breaks to sit and eat and Andrew refused the request.

- 18. On April 25, 2019, Larry served Jones with a written warning for calling off three (3) hours before her shift due to pregnancy related sickness.
- 19. Jones believes and acers that she followed the call-off policy and the discipline was a pretext for discrimination.
- 20. In May of 2019, Jones began working the 10 a.m.-8 p.m. shift on Sundays in addition to her previous shifts.
- 21. On June 1, 2019, Jones's fiancé, Isaiah Wolfe ("Wolfe") talked to Andrew about scheduling around a doctor's appointment that was previously approved.
- 22. Andrew told Wolfe, "I don't care if she's pregnant, she should be able to do her job."
- 23. Afterward, Wolfe called and complained on his partners behalf to a female Human Resources representative at T: 412-461-2000.
- 24. Wolfe complained about violations of "The Pregnancy Act."
- 25. Wolfe complained about what was happening was "illegal."
- 26. Wolfe complained about discrimination: Struggles with managers keeping doctor's appointments, managers bullying Jones, and Jones being written up because of her pregnancy.
- 27. On or about June 10, 2019, Andrew served Jones with a written warning for attending a previously approved doctor's appointment on June 1, 2019.
- 28. The appointment was previously approved by Larry a month prior.
- 29. On or about June 14, 2019, Dave told Jones, "Be careful, Larry is out to get you."
- 30. On or about June 20, 2019, Larry served Jones with a third written warning for an alleged error with a food order.
- 31. The discipline was a pretext for discrimination, because Jones made no mistake.

- 32. Larry threw out half of a customer's order, resulting in half needing to be remade and the other half getting cold.
- 33. Also in June of 2019, Larry made unwelcome pregnancy related comments telling Jones that she was using the bathroom too much.
- 34. On or about June 23, 2019, Larry met with Jones and told her she was terminated for her third warning.
- 35. Afterwards, Jones called and complained to Human Resources about being "pregnant" and "unjustly terminated."
- 36. Defendant did not take any corrective action and approved of the termination of employment.
- 37. Jones was terminated during her 7th month of pregnancy and lost valuable wages.
- 38. The right and just conclusion is that Jones was terminated as a result of her pregnancy and complaining about pregnancy discrimination.

#### **COUNT I: PREGNANCY DISCRIMINATION**

- 39. Jones repeats all prior factual allegations herein.
- 40. Jones is a female and pregnant.
- 41. Jones followed policy and performed well.
- 42. Jones was targeted and harassed because of her pregnancy.
- 43. Jones was denied reasonable accommodations for symptoms.
- 44. As a direct result of discrimination, Jones was disciplined and terminated.
- 45. The offered reasons were pretexts for discrimination.
- 46. Jones requests all available relief for willful and malicious violations of federal law, compensatory and punitive damages, costs, fees and attorney fees.

#### **COUNT II: RETALIATION**

- 47. Jones repeats all prior allegations herein.
- 48. Jones complained to about pregnancy discrimination.
- 49. Defendant took no corrective action and the discrimination and harassment continued unabated.
- 50. Within a short proximity of time after complaining, Plaintiff was terminated.
- 51. There was no legitimate reason for the termination.
- 52. Plaintiff contacted Defendant but unsuccessfully tried to be reinstated.
- 53. Jones requests all available damages, including Punitive Damages, for willful violations of federal law, all costs and fees and attorney fees.

WHEREFORE Plaintiffs prays for a judgment against the Defendant and all available relief and damages for willful and malicious violations of federal law, costs fees and attorney fees.

## **JURY TRIAL DEMANDED**

Respectfully submitted,

ERIK M. YURKOVICH, ESQ.

Attorney at Law

PA. I.D. No. 83432

207 Pine Creek Road

Building 1, Suite 201

Wexford, Pennsylvania 15090

T: 724.933.9199